

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

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year. Four cents per copy. Annual subscription
price \$12.THE WEEKLY HERALD, every Saturday, at FIVE
CENTS per copy. Annual subscription price—
One Copy..... \$2
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Five Copies..... 8
Ten Copies..... 15Any larger number addressed to names of sub-
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The EUROPEAN EDITION, every Wednesday, at SIX
CENTS per copy, \$4 per annum to any part of Great
Britain, or \$6 to any part of the Continent, both to
include postage.ADVERTISEMENTS, to a limited number, will be in-
serted in the WEEKLY HERALD and the European
Edition.

Volume XXXVI.....No. 128

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th street.—
RAVALL'S TIGER.STROLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—KIT, THE ARKANSAS
TRAVELLER.LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 720 Broadway.—COMEDY
OF RASK.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 5th and 23d st.—
BARRY BLUES.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—ITALIAN
OPERA—RIGOLETTO.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—RICHIE—THE SNOW
BIRD.NEW YORK STADT THEATRE, No. 45 Bowery.—
LOUENGER.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—
USED UP—THE CRITIC.GLOBE THEATRE, 720 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAIN-
MENT, AC.—THE TEMPER TOLLER.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE DRAMA OF
HOMER.WOOD'S THEATRE, 333 st. between 5th and 6th ave.—
A WINTER'S TALE.WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 30th st.—Perform-
ances every afternoon and evening.MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—
NECK AND NOCK.BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Montague street.—
BROOKLYN III.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 525 Broadway.—
SANTO'S ROYAL JAPANESE THEATRE.BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 234 st. between 6th
and 7th ave.—NORNO MINSTRELS, AC.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—VARI-
ETY ENTERTAINMENT.THEATRE COMIQUE, 534 Broadway.—COMIC VOCA-
LISM, NORNO, AC.GLOBE THEATRE, Brooklyn (formerly Hookey's).—VARI-
ETY ENTERTAINMENT.NEWCOMB & ARLINGTON'S MINSTRELS, corner 25th
and Broadway.—NORNO MINSTRELS, AC. Matinee at 2.DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, May 8, 1871.

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THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, now become a federal Territory, is brushing up its old clothes for a gallant showing. Militia companies are organizing and the Board of Public Works are surveying the streets and avenues anew.

THE COAL TROUBLES.—Since the failure of negotiations between the miners and the corporations the prospect of a harmonious end of the long strike seems more distant than ever. The strike of the mine laborers is said to have been incited by the corporations themselves, in order to increase the troubles of the miners.

THE CHINAMAN, like "the damned spot," will not out immediately. The population statistics of California show that there are over forty-nine thousand of them in that State, an occasional few of whom were born upon California soil, being, therefore, native American citizens of Chinese descent, who, in the nature of things, will be claiming the right of suffrage in a few years.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE FARMERS.—According to our correspondent at Buffalo the break in the Erie Canal at Fairport is being rapidly repaired. Water, it is expected, will be let into the canal to-morrow, and the presumption in such a case will be that boats will be able to pass by Thursday. Considering the work which had to be done and the hindrances which have been experienced the repairs have been accomplished with praise-worthy speed. We congratulate the large farming interest particularly on the prospect of the speedy restoration of the canal.

The Joint High Commission—The New Treaty With Great Britain.

We learn from our Washington special correspondence, published this morning, that the members of the Joint High Commission, having practically concluded their labors, will to-day formally affix their signatures to the convention they have agreed upon for the adjustment of the questions pending between the United States and Great Britain. We congratulate the Commissioners upon the speedy termination of the difficult and delicate task committed to them. We congratulate the people of the United States, as well as the Canadians and our friends across the ocean, upon the prospect of a speedy and satisfactory settlement of all questions which are calculated to cause continued irritation. It remains, however, for the Senate and the people of the United States to confirm or condemn the basis of settlement proposed by the Commission. In England the action of the Ministry is final, but in this country the genius of our institutions requires that the convention, in order to have effect, shall receive the approval of the people. Unless the conclusions the Commissioners have come to are satisfactory to the general sentiment of our citizens, all the discussions and deliberations of this Joint High Commission will be futile.

The Senate will meet in executive session on Wednesday next to receive the report in the form of a treaty, that will then be submitted for its action. The custom is to keep the terms of treaties confidential until they shall have been finally disposed of by the Senate. During the consideration of the questions before the Commission we have, from time to time, presented the points at issue, and we have now what is understood to be the essential features of the style of settlement agreed upon. However, we are not disposed to criticize this convention until we have the complete text before us, which we hope soon to have, notwithstanding the strict injunction of secrecy imposed upon every person who has anything to do with it. So far as we are enabled now to judge we repeat what we have said heretofore—namely, that this commission has actually settled nothing, but rather provides a plan by which other commissions or courts to be created hereafter may conclude a final settlement.

The most important provision in the treaty, as it is understood, is the enunciation as a principle of public law, which it is expected will be accepted by the great Powers of Europe, that a country is responsible for depredations committed on a friendly power by vessels equipped in the ports of a neutral nation. In order to cover the case of the Alabama and the other Anglo-Confederate vessels which preyed upon our commerce during the war, and which are alluded to by name, it is proposed to make this principle retroactive. This is much more than England condescended to do in the Johnson-Clarendon Treaty, which was so unanimously rejected by the Senate. In order to adjudicate the claims a court, to consist of five members, is to be appointed. The President of the United States, the Queen of Great Britain, the Emperor of Brazil, the King of Italy and the President of the Federal Council of Switzerland are each to select one member of this Court of Claims. All claims of citizens of both countries growing out of the war are to be submitted to this tribunal. The dispute about the Northwestern water boundary is to be referred to the President of Switzerland, who is to decide distinctly which channel shall be the boundary line; and from this decision there is to be no appeal. The fishery matter has been adjusted by re-establishing the clauses in the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854, giving certain reciprocal rights to Canadian and American fishermen, and by providing for restricted trade arrangements, as well as the payment to Canada of a round sum of money, in place of the more general reciprocity of trade provided for in the treaty of 1854, and which has been repealed. Provision is also made for the appointment of Fishery Commissioners, whose duties are defined. The free navigation of the St. Lawrence river by American vessels is conceded, and as a necessary consequence freedom is given to use the Canadian canals upon the payment of the same tolls as are imposed upon Canadian vessels. Heretofore a cause of complaint has been the high rate charged American vessels, while the tolls charged Canadian vessels were very low. This invidious distinction was a short-sighted policy on the part of the Canadians, for without the patronage of American vessels the construction of the canals of the St. Lawrence would have been a disastrous speculation.

These are briefly some of the salient points of the proposed adjustment of the outstanding questions between the United States and England. The impression prevails in Washington that the required two-thirds majority will be secured to carry the treaty through the Senate. It is probable, however, that it will have to be amended in some particulars before it will be in shape to receive the sanction of the Senate and the cordial approval of the people. Any propositions that provide for or imply payment of money to Great Britain, while our Alabama claims are unpaid, will be severely criticised. The claims of British subjects against the United States, a list of some of which we publish in another page of this morning's paper, and especially the claims for cotton seized by commanders of Union troops during the war, will be brought up before the international court of claims provided for in the treaty, and, while their aggregate value is variously estimated, there seems to be little doubt that they will more than offset the Alabama claims. We think, considering the interest this whole subject creates on both sides of the Atlantic, that the treaty should be officially given to the public by order of the Senate, and that the discussion upon it should be in open instead of secret session.

THE MAN OF "BLOOD AND IRON."—Bismarck is known to have more faith in "blood and iron" than in soft words or idle and useless talk. The stern principles and unbending will of the German Chancellor have been afresh illustrated by the Frankfurt meeting on May 6. The French deputies asked more time to pay the indemnities. They asked, also, that the forts on the eastern side

of Paris, such as Charenton, Nogent, Rosny and Noisy, be restored to the Versailles government so as to enable them the more speedily to put down the insurgents. But no. Bismarck will make no concessions. He must have his bond. The Versailles government must borrow the money, no matter at what sacrifice. In this case the blood and iron policy seems harsh and cruel; but it is, perhaps, after all, the wisest and the best. If the money is not paid down at once the Germans will occupy Paris, and some hundreds of thousands of the soldiers of Fatherland will recross the French frontier.

The Negotiations at Frankfurt and the Paris Revolt.

For the past three days public attention has been partly diverted from the scene of hostilities around Paris to the German city of Frankfurt, where Prince Bismarck has held several conferences with the representatives of France, MM. Favre and Pouyer-Quertier. Through our special correspondent the readers of the HERALD have daily been made acquainted with the progress of the negotiations. Our report this morning announces that an agreement has been reached, but of its nature we are still unaware. It is likely, however, from the general tenor of the despatch, that it involves the early suppression of the revolt in Paris and the speedy establishment of a permanent and legitimate government in France. On Saturday last Prince Bismarck not only insisted on an immediate and strict compliance with the stipulations of the preliminaries of peace, but he also demanded that M. Thiers exercise his authority and call upon the people, by means of the *plébiscite*, to vote themselves a regular government. The same day Bismarck received a telegram from the Emperor William, expressing the willingness of that monarch to afford every possible facility to the Versailles authorities and to discuss the means of suppressing the insurrection and of restoring legitimate authority in France. It thus appears that the Germans are beginning to take steps looking toward active intervention. Our correspondent states that it is believed Germany is favorable to a restoration of the imperial Regency, and that it is thought this can be easily accomplished by means of the *plébiscite*. A few days more will doubtless decide the policy of the German Emperor. It certainly looks as if the return of Napoleon to the throne was a part of the programme; but speculation on this probability must be reserved until we are informed of the agreement reached by Bismarck and Favre at Frankfurt, and which will be sent to-morrow to Berlin and Versailles for ratification.

Desultory fighting and heavy cannonading comprise the sum total of the military operations around Paris since our last report. The Communists claim successes at one or two points; but, even if their claims are well founded, they probably arise from trivial engagements, which do not affect the position of the Army of Versailles. It is true that General Kossel, the Communist Minister of War, expresses himself confident of final success; still we are satisfied that, even if the Germans abstain from interference, the fall of Paris and suppression of the revolt is merely a question of time.

The Sermons Yesterday.

The sermons delivered yesterday, although full of wholesome counsel, were not, on the whole, equal to those delivered on the previous Sabbath day. Perhaps their frequent dullness was caused by the threatening aspect of the weather; or it may be that as the season expires clergymen devote less time and thought to the composition of their discourses. But be that as it may our reports this morning show a lack of that spirit and originality on the part of the preachers which are such powerful aids of Christianity. Nevertheless, some of the sermons were interesting. That by Mr. Putnam on the love of God and of the Saviour for men was earnest and thoughtful. Dr. Wescott's narrative of his career of forty years in the ministry was full of interest. Mr. Love's discourse on the subject of the recent murder of Mr. Putnam was forcible and eloquent, his text from Numbers being singularly appropriate—"And if he smite him with an instrument of iron so that he die he is a murderer. The murderer shall surely be put to death." Seldom do we hear a clergyman advocate the enforcement of the death penalty, as Mr. Love did indirectly yesterday; and the fact that from the pulpit went forth a cry for justice on the murderer must be taken as an evidence of how deeply stirred the popular mind has been by the recent tragedy. We agree with Mr. Love in the sentiments he gave expression to yesterday. Mercy should be extended only to those who merit it.

Of the other sermons the most noteworthy were Mr. Hepworth's, on the subject of the Lord's Supper; Mr. Beecher's, rejoicing over the admission of one hundred new members to the Plymouth fold; Dr. Newman's, in Washington, on the secret faults of Christians; and Father McQuade's, in Jersey City, on the necessity of doing penance. There were others of merit which we are unable to refer to specifically. These, as well as those herein named, we recommend to the attentive perusal of the public, confident that they contain much to comfort the afflicted and to lead the sinner to righteousness.

THE SULTAN AND THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.—A cable despatch from Constantinople informs us that the Sultan has sent an embassy to Berlin to congratulate the Emperor William on his accession to the throne of Germany. When we remember that the Sultan congratulated the Emperor Napoleon on the occasion of his declaration of war against Prussia and earnestly wished him success, we cannot attach much moral value to this new move of the Sultan. It is not the less, however, significant. The straw sometimes indicates the direction of the wind. It was the belief of the Sultan when war was declared that France would win. It is his conviction now, Germany having come out of the struggle victorious and in undisputed alliance with Russia, that he has not only lost a friend, but strengthened a foe. Hence the court the Sultan is now paying to Emperor William. We have no desire to see the peace of Europe disturbed; but we cannot close our eyes to the fact that if Russia should now think it proper to cross the Pruth and march to Constantinople no Western alliance would be likely to hinder her progress. It will be well if the Sultan can make the Emperor William his friend.

The Tien-tsin Massacre—What Shall the Great Civilized Powers Do?

A good deal of light has been thrown upon the frightful massacre of Christians at Tien-tsin, China, by the copious correspondence from that part of the world published lately in the HERALD. Our readers have been informed both of the horrible details of that barbarous deed and the motive and feelings that prompted it. It would be hard to find even in uncivilized countries any act more savage and brutal than the murder at Tien-tsin last June of the ten Sisters of Charity, three priests, the French Consul, Vice Consul, three Russians and a large number of native Christian converts. Nor were the outrages perpetrated confined to subjects of France or Russia. The Protestant places of worship, and among them the American chapel, were attacked and more or less plundered and destroyed. It appears, too, that not only the mob, but the soldiers of the Governor General's army also were active in this work of spoliation. Though the outrage seemed to have been aimed at the French especially, it was really against all Christians and foreigners. When the three Russians who were killed begged for mercy and hoped to save themselves on the plea that they were not French, the reply was, "No matter; we kill all foreigners." There appears to be no doubt that the outbreak at Tien-tsin was connected with a widespread conspiracy throughout a portion of the Chinese empire, at least, against foreigners in general. The attack being made first upon the French, and the native hostility not being so pronounced against American, English or other foreigners, afford no reason to suppose that the foreigner of one nation is not as obnoxious to the Chinese as another. Indeed, the very cowardice and concealed duplicity made manifest in the outrage upon the French at a time when France was in trouble and supposed to be unable to defend her citizens abroad show what may be expected by other nations whenever the Chinese dare to show their teeth.

We had hoped, when Mr. Burlingame came here as Ambassador from China, that the Chinese were going to take a new departure in their intercourse and relations with foreigners, in accordance with the spirit and progress of the age. The appointment of an American citizen as the chief of the most important Embassy that ever left China was regarded by us as a great stride to that end, and full of promise for the future. The government, people and press of the United States hailed with satisfaction that extraordinary mission, and this fact did much to break down objections and prejudices in Europe and to make the Embassy's path more easy with European governments. There was at first a strong feeling in some parts of Europe, and in England particularly, against making such treaties with China as Mr. Burlingame proposed. The leading English newspapers, responding to the sentiments of the old British party and opium traders in China and India, urged that a more liberal policy to the Chinese, as inaugurated by the Burlingame mission, would not make the Chinese more friendly, but would increase their arrogance and pretensions. This opinion was overruled, however, in a great measure after the American-Chinese treaty was made, and the Embassy arrived in Europe. The British government and the other governments of Europe followed the United States in the new liberal policy inaugurated. But the ink of the latest made treaties upon this new policy was hardly dry when the astounding information came of the Tien-tsin massacre, and of a probable extensive conspiracy in China to drive out foreigners and to deny them the privileges guaranteed by these treaties. Were the British right in their opinion of the incurable hostility and faithlessness of the Chinese? Were the American people and Mr. Burlingame wrong in their estimate of Chinese character and the results of the liberal policy established? The terrible event at Tien-tsin and the temper of the Chinese people tend to destroy the hope we had entertained.

The chief man of China, the Regent, Prince Kung, who is the uncle of the young Emperor, is the same ruler that sent the Burlingame Embassy abroad and appointed Mr. Burlingame the Chief Ambassador. This indicated that he was a liberal-minded and progressive man. The world believed him to be so. Mr. Burlingame and his associates proclaimed that everywhere. Are we to suppose, then, that Prince Kung has changed? It may be that he has not—that he still wishes to carry out treaty obligations and to bring China into more free and close relations with the civilized Christian nations of the world. Yet how can we account for the Tien-tsin horror? It is known that at the time the Burlingame Embassy was sent abroad there was a strong party in China opposed to it; some of the highest mandarins were. This old China party was like the old Bourbons of France, the high Tories of England, the ultramontane Catholic hierarchy, and the old Pan Slavist Russian aristocracy. All these adhere to the past, cling to the exclusiveness of a former age, and pertinaciously resist any change or innovation. It is this old China party that rose and plotted against foreigners and Christians and committed the horrible crime at Tien-tsin, and, it is to be feared, by the aid or connivance of some of the high officials of the land. The brutal ruffians asserted their expectation of aid from the army of the Governor General of that part of China, and it is known the soldiers aided them in their work of destruction. One of the mandarins urged the rioters on in their horrible deeds. It is evident, therefore, that the imperial government either connived at the outrage or was powerless to prevent it.

When we consider that the Chinese government is a perfect despotism, with its agents everywhere, and that it is kept pretty well informed of what is transpiring in the empire, we cannot resist the impression that it knew of the gathering cloud that burst so dreadfully over the Christians at Tien-tsin. If so, a fearful responsibility rests upon it, and the great civilized Powers should demand full reparation for those outrages, with the punishment of the really guilty parties and of the Chinese officials who participated in or connived at the outrage. They should demand, too, ample guarantees for the future. These demands should be made, indeed, if the government had not a guilty knowledge of what was going to happen, because every government is held responsible for the performance

of its duty in affording protection to those on its soil and in fulfilling treaty obligations. It will not do to let a few miserable convicts or peasants be the scapegoats of higher criminals. Nor should the present occasion be permitted to pass without making a striking example—without teaching the Chinese government and people that the great civilized nations of the world must be respected. The cause of France or of Russia in this matter is the cause of Christendom, of the civilized world and of humanity. A decided and united effort should be made to make these semi-barbarians behave themselves, and to teach them that the world moves. While the great Christian Powers have no wish to interfere with the autonomy of China, its religion or form of government, the Chinese cannot be allowed to stop the wheels of progress. Justice to China in all its rights, and with regard to its independence and internal form of government will be accorded; but it has entered into the family of nations and must perform its duty to the rest of the world. Treaty obligations must be enforced and the interests of the progressive civilization of the age must be secured. Our own government, which was the first to inaugurate a liberal policy toward China, and to show its friendship, should unite with the other great civilized nations in securing these objects. Whatever may be the troubles or faults of unhappy France, she should not be left to deal with the Chinese alone. England, Russia, Germany, Italy—all the nations of Europe—yes, even Turkey, with the United States, should make common cause in bringing the Chinese to a sense of their duty to the rest of the world, and to make them understand that civilization must advance, in the land of Confucius as everywhere else.

Preston—Brann—Hecker.

The Catholic Church in this diocese probably does not contain three more able, earnest or eloquent pastors than the reverend gentlemen whose names head this article. There are fewer able men in any denomination than Dr. Thomas S. Preston, the worthy pastor of St. Ann's church, in Twelfth street. He is a man of medium size, stout build and about forty-eight years of age. Dr. Preston was formerly a Protestant minister, but about twenty years ago he became a convert to Catholicism, and has remained steadfast and faithful to the Church of his choice ever since. As a Protestant divine he was very popular, and he has succeeded in maintaining, if not increasing, this popularity in his new faith. The old St. Ann's church in Eighth street, under his pastorate, became too small to accommodate the masses who from Sabbath to Sabbath hang upon his words, and more than a year ago the old Hebrew Temple Emanuel was purchased by his congregation, and the old structures torn down and one of the most beautiful Catholic church edifices in the city erected thereon. It is capable of seating over two thousand persons, and there are seldom any seats vacant in it after the opening of the service. The financial condition of this church was presented to our readers a couple of weeks ago, and need not be repeated here. As a preacher Dr. Preston is clear and logical, viewing doctrines and questions from his standpoint. As a lecturer he is well and widely known, and he never fails to draw large audiences whenever he talks on live topics of the day. He has great faith in the mission and prospective glory of Catholicism, and seeks to spread its doctrines as far and as widely as possible by every means in his power. He holds one of the most important offices in the Church at present—Chancellor of this diocese.

The Rev. Henry A. Brann, D.D., pastor of the Catholic church on Washington Heights, is a young man, about thirty-two years of age, full of dash and vigor, just the kind of man to make a good pioneer in a cause in which he was interested. He is an American in the most thorough sense, and an eminently practical man. His scholarship is both rare and remarkable. He speaks not only the language of his Church and the language of his country, but also French, German, Spanish and Italian with fluency, and in a competitive examination a few years ago, before the ecclesiastical authorities in Rome, he took the degree of D.D. from a class of seventy. Dr. Brann has been in the Catholic ministry nearly ten years in this city and vicinity, and everywhere he is engaged in pioneer work—building up churches and gathering congregations where none before existed; And, like the great missionary apostle Paul, he seeks out new fields for himself rather than build upon other men's foundations. Without studying books less he studies the world more than some of his brethren, and with his suavity of manner and fine social accomplishments he can go among the rich and the poor of his congregations, winning smiles and praises from all and gaining an influence over them which is rarely acquired by other pastors who lack this practical knowledge and those accomplishments. As our readers may infer, the preaching of such a man must be eminently practical and useful, designed as it is for the present; because if men can be taught to live well there need be very little fear about their dying hard. A good life is almost certain to have a good ending, and the aim of all Christian teaching should be to make men live toward God, and not toward the base things of the world; and this is what Dr. Brann uniformly seeks in his pulpit ministrations.

The Rev. I. T. Hecker, pastor of the Paulist church, in Fifty-ninth street and Ninth avenue, is an old resident of New York and known to all its people. Thirty-six years ago the three brothers Hecker began business here in Rutgers street, where at present Mr. John Hecker maintains a free mission church. One of the brothers—the subject of this sketch—subsequently turned his thoughts toward the Christian ministry, intending to enter the Protestant Episcopal Church; but Providence or circumstances had ordered otherwise, and he became a convert to Catholicism and entered the priesthood of that Church, in which, with the missionary spirit of Paul, he has done some excellent work for the Church. In one of the most neglected portions of the city he has built a large and commodious church and college and gathered an intelligent congregation, who fill its pews every Sabbath day. In his society there are twelve or fifteen priests, who are always held in readiness to answer

missionary calls from any quarter, and, when not away, they take turns preaching, so that Father Hecker himself is not overtaxed in this regard. With one or two exceptions all his priests are converts from Protestantism, and their numbers are kept full by students from the college, three of whom were ordained about six weeks ago, and one of whom preached an excellent sermon yesterday morning, which will be found elsewhere in our columns. Father Hecker is not as learned nor as eloquent as his two brethren herein named, but he is practical and earnest, and is engaged in mission work among the neglected masses of the Twenty-second ward, which should meet the approbation of every good and right-minded person.

Mexican Affairs.

Later news from Mexico, through our special correspondent at the capital of that republic, which we publish this morning, is more favorable than were the reports of yesterday. Although his majority was very small, Juarez triumphed in Congress in the Guerrero question, and, as this was the keystone question of his administration, its settlement in his favor must greatly strengthen his position and aid him in his candidature. But, while successful in this measure, Juarez has been compelled to yield in the matter of the Municipal Council of the capital, and all the city offices are now held by the partisans of Lerdo, his competitor for the Presidency. He says that he yielded to preserve the peace, which gives to the act a degree of patriotism not often exhibited by Mexican leaders. Nevertheless we are satisfied that Juarez's chances remain the best. The political campaign continued as violent as ever; but as the opposing parties confined themselves to mere abuse of each other, the violence was not very dangerous to the peace of the country. The ministerial crisis, of which the press had so much to say, did not exist, the Mexican President having resolved to retain the services of Romero and Mejia as long as those gentlemen were willing to remain in his Cabinet.

Such was the political situation of Mexico on the last day of April. What it is to-day is a different matter altogether. Mexican politics are decidedly unstable. What may hold good to-day is very bad to-morrow. Since the Communist revolt began in Paris the people, on rising in the morning, go to the front of their houses and accost the first person who passes with, "Monsieur, can you inform me what the name of our street is this morning?" the patriotic blouses having a partiality for changing the names of the various thoroughfares. In like manner, though there was no revolution in Mexico on the 30th ult., it by no means follows that there was not one on the 1st of May, as the Mexicans are as fond of revolutions as the Parisians are of changing the names of their streets.

Aside from politics the news is interesting, though meagre. The practicability of the route for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec is confirmed, and the only question to be decided is whether the canal can be constructed at a cost sufficiently low to make it profitable to capitalists. Progress is reported in the construction of railroads, which are a means of transportation more needed in Mexico than anything else. Give the country five thousand miles of railroad, and the public tranquillity will be unbroken by the villains who periodically start on a campaign of murder and robbery and call it revolution.

"No Disorderly or Intoxicated Persons Will Be Allowed to Ride on This Car."

The churlishness of street car drivers and conductors is proverbial. Many instances of offensive conduct from members of this fraternity have come within our notice. Ladies and gentlemen—but in most cases gentlemen of modest mien, for even case-hardened brutality will shrink from insulting a lady—have been bullied into silent submission to the insults of these high-handed officials. From the frequency of what we would call petty outrages upon passengers we have come to look upon them as a matter of course. The worst part of this species of churlishness is that it seldom manifests itself in brutal epithets or in words objectionable in themselves. It very often happens that a lady or gentleman has not the requisite small change to pay the fare, or objects to having the change returned in coppers or nickel or greasy stamps of small denomination. A controversy would ensue, in the course of which the conductor would dive down for his deepest bass and settle the matter by the liberal use of his ponderous voice. Thus the annoyance cannot be resented, though none the less galling; in fact more so, because the words cannot be taken hold of, and the aggrieved passenger could make nothing of the complaint. Besides, a lady or gentleman will seldom take up such petty insults or condescend to bandy words with these individuals, as any remonstrance would be simply thrown away and might provoke still worse insults. Having got the best of it, the conductor would, after browbeating the unlucky passenger, cast a significant look around and generally meet a sympathizing gaze from some passenger of kindred instincts to encourage him in his course; for muscular bullying is certain to command the respect of gross minds. Even in cases of flagrant insult sensitive passengers will rather submit in silence in order to avoid publicity and bring made the object of general remarks. Thus a man's temper may be soured for the whole day by a trifling annoyance of this kind. But a short time ago we witnessed a case where a gentleman tendered a two dollar bill to a conductor, who refused point blank to take it, but ordered him off the car because he did not happen to have any small change about him. This is one case out of many others of the same description. Many a gentleman will get off the car while speeding on at a rapid rate at the risk of his limbs rather than tell the conductor to stop, because he dreads the suppressed brutality of the man. What we have said of conductors may also, to some extent, be applied to drivers. They, too, will, when seeing some person making for the car, allow him to run a race and mentally calculate the distance, in order to avoid stopping the vehicle.

Now it cannot be denied that passengers are sometimes in the wrong; but even then conductors ought not to break out into abuse, but smooth down the dispute by fair words,